



BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
2420 DEL PASO ROAD, SUITE 255
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95834
TEL: (916) 575-7170
www.optometry.ca.gov



FACT SHEET
INACTIVE OPTOMETRIST LICENSE

An optometrist who holds an “ACTIVE” and unrestricted California license and wishes to have it placed into “INACTIVE” status, must:

1. Submit a signed written request to have their license placed into “INACTIVE” status.
2. Have the request approved by the Board.

The holder of an “INACTIVE” license:

- MAY NOT ENGAGE IN THE PRACTICE OF OPTOMETRY.
- NEED NOT COMPLY WITH CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS AS A CONDITION FOR RENEWAL OF THEIR INACTIVE LICENSE.
- SHALL PAY A LICENSE RENEWAL FEE OF \$300.00 PRIOR TO EACH EXPIRATION DATE.

CHANGING AN INACTIVE LICENSE TO ACTIVE

An optometrist who holds an “INACTIVE” license and wishes to have it changed to “ACTIVE” status must meet the following requirements as defined in Business & Professions Code sections 462, 704 and California Code of Regulations sections 1524 & 1536:

1. Submit a signed written request to have license changed to active status.
2. Submit a \$25.00 license issuance fee.
3. Provide proof of having met continuing education requirements.¹
 - TPA certified optometrists shall complete 50 hours of continuing education. 35 of the required 50 hours of continuing education shall be on the diagnosis, treatment and management of ocular disease.
 - Non-TPA certified optometrist shall complete 40 hours of continuing education.

PLEASE NOTE:

- An “INACTIVE” license cannot be changed to “ACTIVE” status unless the license is current. (Business and Professions Code Section 701)

¹Submit original certificates of completion. Upon review and approval, these certificates will be returned.